

## University of Dayton eCommons

---

News Releases

Marketing and Communications

---

1-27-1999

# Want to Experience Closure? Visit Campus and Close Down a Sculpture

Follow this and additional works at: [https://ecommons.udayton.edu/news\\_rls](https://ecommons.udayton.edu/news_rls)

---

### Recommended Citation

"Want to Experience Closure? Visit Campus and Close Down a Sculpture" (1999). *News Releases*. 8682.  
[https://ecommons.udayton.edu/news\\_rls/8682](https://ecommons.udayton.edu/news_rls/8682)

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Marketing and Communications at eCommons. It has been accepted for inclusion in News Releases by an authorized administrator of eCommons. For more information, please contact [frice1@udayton.edu](mailto:frice1@udayton.edu), [mschlangen1@udayton.edu](mailto:mschlangen1@udayton.edu).

**WANT TO EXPERIENCE CLOSURE?  
VISIT CAMPUS AND CLOSE DOWN A SCULPTURE**

DAYTON, Ohio — If you come across a sculpture at the University of Dayton that is staked off with yellow caution tape and has a “closed” sign posted in front, it’s not closed for repairs — it’s part of a multi-media visual arts exhibition sponsored by the Rike Center Gallery.

The “Built” exhibit, curated by Matthew Distel and Peter Huttinger of Cincinnati, is a collection of sculptures, paintings, collages and computer generated images, but one of the most intriguing pieces encourages viewers to become part of art.

An “untitled” interactive action piece by artists Kristin and Lyz Bly of Newsense Enterprises in Cleveland offers instructions on how to close a sculpture. The artists invite people to put on a blue worker’s uniform and a badge, haul stakes and a sledgehammer to any sculpture on campus and create a fence around the artwork. The statue of Mary located outside Roesch Library was the first statue to be closed off.

The artists’ instructions suggest an answer such as “I don’t know — I’m just doing my job,” as a response to onlookers who question why the sculpture is being closed. The artists also encourage participants to take Polaroid pictures of the closure and post them in the gallery.

According to the artists’ manifesto, they are trying to show viewers that “text and appearance propagate banal corporate identity” and that when participants assume authority “no one questions your position.”

Kristin Bly says the primary motivation in creating the installation was to have fun with the word “closure,” especially as it relates to art. He also says that they don’t encourage people to close sculptures that can actually be closed, such as ones that can be walked through, because then it’s “no longer funny.”

According to Huttinger, the “Built” show is about diversity in regard to approaches to building something — a show or an artwork. “The artists use a wide range of materials and processes. Some items are made from found objects (stuff other people just throw away) that

-over-

is then assembled; others are fabricated in virtual space using computer programs; others are built from more traditional fine arts materials; and still others are built for other reasons such as musical instruments to be played in concert that then become sculpture by default," he says.

Other pieces in the exhibit range from Aaron Morse's wall-sized acrylic cutout collage of comic book characters titled "Spidey Faces Deadly Defeat" to Laura Herman's Iris print titled "Esteem" that depicts the bare back of a pig-tailed girl with the words, "I hate me more."

The exhibit, which runs through Thursday, Feb. 18, is free and open to public. Hours are Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or by appointment by calling (937) 229-3237.

-30-

For more information, call **Peter Huttinger** at (513) 621-4976 or e-mail [volatile@one.net](mailto:volatile@one.net). Call **Kristin** or **Lyz Bly** at (216) 521-8582. For more information about UD's Rike Center Gallery, call **Jeff Jones** at (937) 229-3857.